

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

JOHN WALTER GERMAINE,

Plaintiff,

v.

MARIKA NYMAN ST. GERMAIN,
E. ROSS ZIMMERMAN, BRIAN J. COOKE,
BUCKINGHAM DOOLITTLE & BURROUGHS, LLP,
TD AMERITRADE, WACHOVIA SECURITIES,
AMERICAN FAMILY CREDIT UNION and
VIRGINIA UTLEY,

Defendants.

ORDER

10-cv-515-bbc

On November 3, 2010, I granted defendants' motions to dismiss plaintiff John Germaine's complaint and dismissed his complaint for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. Now plaintiff has filed a notice of appeal of the November 3 decision.

Because he has not paid the \$455 fee for filing an appeal, I construe plaintiff's notice as a request for leave to proceed in forma pauperis on appeal. A district court has authority to deny a request for leave to proceed in forma pauperis under 28 U.S.C. § 1915 for one or more of the following reasons: the litigant wishing to take an appeal has not established

indigence, the appeal is taken in bad faith or the litigant is a prisoner and has three strikes. § 1915(a)(1),(3) and (g). Sperow v. Melvin, 153 F.3d 780, 781 (7th Cir. 1998). Plaintiff's request for leave to proceed in forma pauperis on appeal will be denied, because I am certifying that his appeal is not taken in good faith.

In Lucien v. Roegner, 682 F.2d 625, 626 (7th Cir. 1982), the court of appeals instructed district courts to find bad faith in cases in which a plaintiff is appealing the same claims the court found to be without legal merit. Lee v. Clinton, 209 F.3d 1025, 1027 (7th Cir. 2000). Plaintiff is trying to appeal the same claims that I dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. Because there is no legally meritorious basis for plaintiff's appeal, I must certify that the appeal is not taken in good faith.

Because I am certifying plaintiff's appeal as not having been taken in good faith, he cannot proceed with his appeal without prepaying the \$455 filing fee unless the court of appeals gives him permission to do so. Under Fed. R. App. P. 24, plaintiff has 30 days from the date of this order in which to ask the court of appeals to review this court's denial of leave to proceed in forma pauperis on appeal. With his motion, he must include an affidavit as described in the first paragraph of Fed. R. App. P. 24(a), with a statement of issues he intends to argue on appeal. Also, he must send along a copy of this order. Plaintiff should be aware that he must file these documents in addition to the notice of appeal he has filed previously.

If plaintiff does not file a motion requesting review of this order, the court of appeals

may not address the denial of leave to proceed in forma pauperis on appeal. Instead, it may require plaintiff to pay the entire \$455 filing fee before it considers his appeal. If plaintiff does not pay the fee within the deadline set, it is possible that the court of appeals will dismiss the appeal and order the court to arrange for collection of the fee from plaintiff's prison account.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that plaintiff John Walter Germaine's request for leave to proceed in forma pauperis on appeal is DENIED. I certify that his appeal is not taken in good faith. The clerk of court is directed to insure that plaintiff's obligation to pay the \$455 fee for filing his appeal is reflected in the court's financial records.

Entered this 21st day of December, 2010.

BY THE COURT:
/s/
BARBARA B. CRABB
District Judge